

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 10-16 are allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 10-16 are allowed. By means of the present amendment, claims 2, 8-9 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 18-40 have been added, where independent claims 26, 31 and 36 include features similar to those in allowable claim 10. Further, claims 3-4 have been amended to change dependence thereof to new claim 26.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 26, 31 and 36 are in allowable form, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-4, 18-25, 27-30, 32-35 and 37-40 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 15-16, 26, 31 and 36.

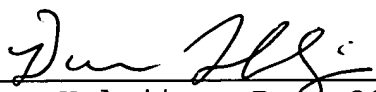
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to

telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments
to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,


By 
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August 19, 2004

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